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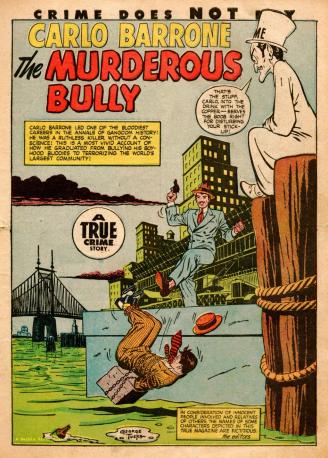
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Dear Readers

In every issue of CRIME DOES NOT PAY this page is devoted to your opinions, ideas and suggestions. Since the conception of CRIME DOES NOT PAY we have been guided by two ideals—first, the eradication of crime and, second, to give credit to the fearless detectives and officers of the law who daily risk their lives that you and we may live in a more lawful society.

In our school the teacher saw my brother reading CRIME DOES NOT PAY so she took it away. During noon hour she read it. She said it was grand, so now she always reads it to the class every month.

Yours truly, Marvin Porter R.F.D. I, Kingsley, Mich.

Please send us the name of your school teacher and your school, Marvin. We'd like to put her on our mailing list.

We have officially opened a "Junior Crime Club" in honor of your CRIME COMICS. Our club library is being stocked with CRIME DOES NOT PAY because of its true account of crime and its results-Crime Does Not Pay. Carry on the good work. Yours truly, Goalam H. Pates 342 c/o Sixth & Mogul Sts.

Asiatic Bazaar, Pretoria, Tvl., South Africa That's a great honor and CRIME DOES NOT PAY magazine will remain worthy of it.

Everyone knows that crime does not pay, but there was a boy in my room at school who learned that fact the hard way. He was arrested for stealing a comic book at the local magazine store. Guess what he was stealing when we was caught? A CRIME DOES NOT PAY comic book.

Yours very truly, Sam Murphy, S. M., Paris, Texas

"We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquillity, provide for the common deforms, promote the general welfare and source the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America." What I have just written is the Preamble to the Constitution. There are reasons in the Preamble telling why we have written the Constitution. I believe your magazine CRIME DOES NOT PAY stands for those points and more. Yours, as long as you keep up the good work. Wilma Steinberg, c/o Weinberg

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CHARLES BIRO and BOB WOOD, Editors

Unless you're on your toes when CRIME DOES NOT PAY comes out, it's hard to get a copy. It is always the first magazine sold out. Who says the younger generation is going to the dogs?

George Wiant 2311 Ninth St., S.W., Canton, Ohio

America's youth is the most fair minded in the world but there are those who won't play the American way of life according to the rules.

Recently we had a discussion of comic books in our school. Practically all the kids were in favor of CRIME DOES NOT PAY. The teacher read a copy and from now on we are going to have a group reading of your wonderful magazine, everytime it comes out. She said it should be required reading for every student, which will suit us!

> Sincerely, Alfred Cobb 91-22 Sutter Ave., Ozone Park, L. L.

It suits us. too.

CRIME DOES NOT PAY gave me an idea regarding neighborhood boys who always portrayed gangsters in their shoot-'em-up games.

By distributing several copies of this publication among them each month I can report, these former gangsters have become G-Men, F.B.I. Agents and Lawmen.

They discovered that CRIME DOES NOT PAY the harmless way.

F. D. Koontz, Moundsville, W. Va.

Shake, F. D.

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your ideas of righteousness and fair play, the problem of choosing good reading would be made simple.

Yours sincerely, W. J. Laughman 236 Richardson Street, Martinez, Calif.

Those in favor, say Aye! Aye, Aye!

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REUNION IN DEATH

The spacious white farmhouse was well kept, as was the barn some 150 feet to the rearindications that the 160-acre dairy farm of David Lynes in Washington Court House, Ohio, was paying well. The killer noted these things mentally as he drove into the yard and parked his car in the rear of the house.

But prosperity had not made David Lynes a whit less stingy, the killer thought. The misseliness of the man, preventing Catherine's marriage until she had repaid him for the money he had spent on her education! Funny how these thoughts whetted his appetite for the kill:

As he stepped from his car the killer drew his topcoat about him, for it was cold on this Thanksgiving Eve in 1043--cold and damp, as if flurries of snow might blow across this Ohio counry at any moment. The killer knew the barn door was open enough to allow his body to pass through, for the yellow flickering light of a lantern cast ereit shadows through the opening, shadows made by the motions of David Lynes, as he bedded down the cattle for the night.

The killer entered steathily, the scattered straw spilled on the floor, making a cushin for bhis feet. David Lynes was now in full view but had not noticed the intrusion. The killer moved a step forward, nearer David Lynes, Then another, and another. Behind the man the killer stopped. David Lynes, holding his lantern, was inspecting the udder of one of his, cover. It was perfect for murder! The killer merely drew the automatic from his upocat pocket. He pulled the trigger. There was the bark of the gun and then a steel-jackteed alog entered David Lynes' brain, killing him instantly. The killer blew out he lantern and walked back asain into the vard.

There was a chance, the killer knew, that someone inside the house, might have heard the shot. And besides, his car parked there in the rear might have been seen. The killer walked slowly toward the front of the house. Yes, there on the percen poech stood Lynes' wife. The killer saw her silhouette against the light that ahone through the front window.

"Oh is's you!" the woman said. "I thought it

was David."

The killer did not reply. He drew the automatic from his pocket and took aim.

"What are you doing?" the woman screamed.

Again the killer did not reply. But his gun spoke. Five times it spoke until the weapon was empty. Then he drew another gun, a .38 revolver. He fired two more shots through the screening. He would have gone on firing, but down the road a -car was approaching. At the wheel was catherine Lynes. The killer stood uncertainly for a moment, then dodged into the shadows of the porch. He watched the car come to the driveway and turn in. It took the killer but a moment to make up his mind. It was now getting dark. There was no other way. ...

A few hours earlier, Catherine Lynes had locked her desk. Her teaching at Pittiburg High was over until the following Monday and now she could go home for Thanksgiving. She closed her eyes as she sat there in the empty classroom and dreamed just for a moment of Billy Case, her former clasmate at Ohio State University. Billy loved her and Catherine loved Billy. Why, she asked hereff, was fate so strongly set against their marrying?

"Fate?" Billy had written her from camp. "Fate, Catherine? You know it is not fate, but your father's selfishness!"

Catherine wondered just vaguely if she loved her father and his petty ways. Then she brunked the thought aside. Of course, she loved him. If Dad wanted back the money he had spent on her education, it was merely caution against the day when he might not work his farm. Of course she loved him. And this was Thanksgiving and she was going home to a reunion with her family. There would be Mother and Dad and Uncle Radley and Journ Ellen. Coursin Ben and his wife and baby!

Catherine rose and went for her coat. She could not stay there mooning. It would be late now before she reached home, driving steadily.

And now as she reached her own driveway, she relaxed happily. Home at last! She drove past the house into the back yard. She did not see the killer's parked car at first and then ber usedlights caught it. She turned out the lights . i ner car and stepped to the ground as the killer approached.

"My dear!" she exclaimed with pleasure.

"It's going to be cold tonight, Catherine," the killer said. "You'd better let me check the alcohol in your radiator."

It was not the kind of reception she had expected, but she reentered her car and raised the hood by means of a lever under the dash. She stepped out to greet the killer. Then the terror of the situation struck home. The killer already had the .38 revolver aimed at her. She tried to cry out, but words failed her. Then the gun cracked and Catherine sank to the ground, her consciousness—her life—ebbing, as the killer returned to his car and drove off into the darkness.

Sheriff John Geist was grim as he interviewed the neighbors. A hired hand, coming to work for David Lynes, had found the bodies on Thanksgiving morning. Now word had spread far and near and the townsfolk of Washington Court House, Ohio, flocked to the scene.

Relatives, who had intended to spend the day with the Lynees, arrived from Clinton County, approximately 40 miles away. Radley Taylor, brothersin-law of the slain couple and uncle of Catherine was shocked and vowed vengeance on the killer, if it took his last penny. Ellen Taylor, Radley's wife and sister of the slain mother, was too grief-stricken to speak. Young Ben Tyler and Ben's wife did what they could to ease the sorrow of their parents, although they, too, were badly shaken by the sudden tragedy in their midst.

Sheriff Geist, however, held an ace he had mentioned to no one. He called the Radley's to one side now and spoke to them.

"Do you know of Catherine's having a fiance ?" he asked.

Radley Taylor's jaw twitched nervously. "Good heavens, you don't think . . .?"

"I don't draw conclusions until I have evidence," Geist replied, "but I found a letter from a certain Bill Case in Catherine's purse. He evidently was upset because her father refused to allow Catherine to marry him."

Taylor was staring ahead, as if in a trance. "Case, Bill Case, that was the name!" he said at last. "I thought David was a bit foolish to object so strongly in spite of the money he claimed Catherine owed him!"

"The letter came from Camp Crowder, Missouri," said Geist. "I'll wire for information."

Sheriff Geist turned directly to Radley Taylor. "Rad," he said, "I've known you and your family all my life, but murders have been committed and duty requires me to check all possible angles. I'll have to check your statements and those of your family as to your whereabouts last night."

Taylor smiled, although sadly. "I'd expect you to, John. In fact, I want you to."

Awaiting a reply from Camp Crowder concerning the whereabouts of Bill Case, John Geist checked the statements of Taylor's family. It is sufficient to say that, in each and every instance their stories proved conclusively that the killings could not possibly have been by any member of the family. Geist's reason for the close checking of the Taylors was that there was considerable money and property involved, which, in event of the Lyneses' death, was to be inherited by the Taylors.

Then, just as Sheriff John Geist felt that he had the criminal tagged, the report from Camp Crowder informed the sheriff that Bill Case had been ill in the infirmary for over a week and could not possibly have committed the crimes. Geist went back to the statements of all those whom he had interviewed.

One of the strongest links in the chain of evidence in favor of accepting Radley Taylor's alibihad been that his car's spectometer reading, checked with the reading of a garage mechanic who, the day before Thanksgiving, had greased Taylor's car, showed he had driven only 45 miles, while the distance from his home to that of the Lyneses and back was about 80. Now Geist had the same garage man inspect the car once more.

The garageman's verdict was: "The speedometer has been tampered with, John. It could have been changed!"

Sheriff Geist did not want to believe what he heard, but his duty was clear. He approached Radley Taylor again.

"Rad," he asked, "would you be willing to take a lie-detector test in Toledo?"

"You mean one of those gadgets I've been reading about? Why, sure, John. Sure I would!"

On the first of December, at 9 A.M., Sheriff Geist and Radley Taylor reached Toledo Headquarters. By the end of that day Radley Taylor had confessed to three murders, primarily for the inheritance money!

Tough before his trial and during it, Radley Taylor completely refuted his confession by claiming duress and "double-dealing". A jury of nine men and three women, deliberating only 234, hours, found him guilty of murder in the first degree. On April 20, 1945, Radley Taylor died in the electric chair at Ohio State Penitentiary and learned the Lind way and too late that Crime Does NOT Payl

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0. .0 Scanning comic books is not always a pleasant task! Often, bondage, torture and the removal of flesh are the necessary evils required for a good scan! Crime Does Not Pay no. 53 (Lev Gleason, July 1947) was just such a comic...





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